

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 15, 17, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, and 46 are hereby amended. Claims 49, 50, and 51 are hereby added.

1 1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for the real-time
2 tracking of goods in a supply chain, including:
3 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to store
4 or carry the goods;
5 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing
6 information on said location at a site server to said data appliance;
7 uploading said information to a data center, said data center coupled to said site
8 server;
9 compensating for missing information by using a previous tag read and a current
10 tag read ~~a mistake in said marking by a creating tag read at said data~~
11 ~~center for a missing tag read~~; and
12 charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked
13 goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using said
14 location information regarding each tracked good.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including aggregating one or
2 more of said goods into a conveyance at a data point and wherein said marking includes
3 indicating an aggregation event occurred at said data point.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said marking further includes
2 performing aggregation-by-inference, wherein an aggregation event occurring at said
3 location for a conveyance automatically indicates that said conveyance has been
4 completely filled with items.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 2, further including performing de-
2 aggregation-by-inference at a second data point, wherein a de-aggregation event
3 indicating that all items have been removed from said conveyance is generated.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said tag affixed to said one of
2 the goods is a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag and said marking includes
3 scanning said tag affixed to said one of the goods using an RFID reader.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said one of the goods is stored
2 in one of said conveyances, and said marking includes scanning said tag affixed to said
3 one of said conveyances using a reader.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said marking includes
2 scanning a tag using a tag reader.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said tag reader is
2 coupled to a data appliance.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said tag reader is
2 part of a data appliance.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said marking includes tracking
2 said one of the goods using global positioning satellite (GPS) technology.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said storing utilizes the
2 Universal Data Appliance Protocol (UDAP) to communicate said location information
3 from said data appliance to said site server.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further including
2 accessing said data center and viewing said reports.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including aggregating a good
2 into a conveyance when said good is loaded into said conveyance and de-aggregating
3 said good from said conveyance when said good is unloaded from said conveyance.

1 14. (Cancelled)

1 15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said compensating
2 includes detecting that ~~said a~~ missing tag read occurred by learning that a tag read was

3 made on said good at a first location and at a third location, but not at a second location,
4 wherein said good could not arrive at said third location without first passing through said
5 second location.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including filtering out any
2 duplicative tag reads.

1 17. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for the real-time
2 tracking of goods in a supply chain, including:
3 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to store
4 or carry the goods;
5 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing
6 information on said location at a site server coupled to said data appliance;
7 uploading said location information to a data center, said data center coupled to
8 said site server;
9 compensating for missing information by using a previous tag read and a current
10 tag read ~~a mistake in said marking by a creating tag read at said data~~
11 ~~center for a missing tag read~~; and
12 charging users of said supply chain a fee per transaction to access said data center
13 and view information regarding each tracked good, each transaction
14 including a single tag read.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further including aggregating one or
2 more of said goods into a conveyance at a data point and wherein said marking includes
3 indicating an aggregation event occurred at said data point.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said marking further includes
2 performing aggregation-by-inference, wherein an aggregation event occurring at said
3 location for a conveyance automatically indicates that said conveyance has been
4 completely filled with items.

1 20. (Original) The method of claim 18, further including de-aggregation-by-
2 inference at a second data point, wherein a de-aggregation event indicating that all items
3 have been removed from said conveyance is generated.

1 21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said tag affixed to said one of
2 the goods is a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag and said marking includes
3 scanning said tag affixed to said one of the goods using an RFID reader.

1 22. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said one of the goods is
2 stored in one of said conveyances, and said marking includes scanning said tag affixed to
3 said one of said conveyances using a reader.

1 23. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said marking includes
2 scanning a tag using a tag reader.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said tag reader is
2 coupled to said data appliance.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said tag reader is
2 part of said data appliance.

1 26. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said marking includes
2 tracking said one of the goods using global positioning satellite (GPS) technology.

1 27. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said storing utilizes the
2 Universal Data Appliance Protocol (UDAP) to communicate location information from
3 said data appliance to said site server.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further including said
2 accessing said data center and viewing reports.

1 29. (Original) The method of claim 17, further including aggregating a good
2 into a conveyance when said good is loaded into said conveyance and de-aggregating
3 said good from said conveyance when said good is unloaded from said conveyance.

1 30. (Cancelled)

1 31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said
2 compensating includes detecting that a missing tag read occurred by learning that a tag
3 read was made on said good at a first location and at a third location, but not at a second
4 location, wherein said good could not arrive at said third location without first passing
5 through said second location.

1 32. (Original) The method of claim 29, further including filtering out any
2 duplicative tag reads.

1 33. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of goods in a supply
2 chain, including:

3 a data center comprising compensation logic;

4 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;

5 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to one of said
6 site servers; and

7 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in a way such
8 that they are readable by tag reader coupled to or part of said data
9 appliances;

10 wherein said compensation logic compensates for missing information by using a
11 previous tag read and a current tag read, a mistake by creating a tag read
12 for a missing tag read, and users are charged a fee per good tracked to
13 access said data center and view reports compiled using location
14 information regarding each tracked good.

1 34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein said tags and tag
2 readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

1 35. (Original) The system of claim 33, further including an Intransit Data
2 Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled to said data
3 center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the location of a
4 good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 36. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of goods in a
2 supply chain, including:
3 a data center comprising compensation logic;
4 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;
5 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to one of said
6 site servers;
7 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in a way such
8 that they are readable by tag reader coupled to or part of said data
9 appliances, ~~and~~
10 wherein said compensation logic compensates for missing information by using a
11 previous tag read and a current tag read, a mistake by creating a tag read
12 for a missing tag read, and users are charged a fee per transaction to access
13 said data center and view reports compiled using location information
14 regarding each tracked good, each of said transactions including a tag
15 read.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein said tags and tag
2 readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

1 38. (Original) The system of claim 36, further including an Intransit Data
2 Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled to said data
3 center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the location of a
4 good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 39. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of goods in a
2 supply chain, including:
3 a collaboration center;
4 one or more data centers comprising compensation logic, coupled to said
5 collaboration center;
6 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;
7 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to one of said
8 site servers;

9 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in a way such
10 that they are readable ~~can be read~~ by tag reader coupled to or part of said
11 data appliances, ~~;~~ and
12 wherein said compensation logic compensates for missing information by using a
13 previous tag read and a current tag read, ~~a mistake by creating a tag read~~
14 ~~for a missing tag read~~, and users are charged a fee per good tracked to
15 access said data center and view location information regarding each
16 tracked good.

1 40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 39, wherein said tags and tag
2 readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

1 41. (Original) The system of claim 39, further including an Intransit Data
2 Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled to said data
3 center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the location of a
4 good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 42. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of goods in a
2 supply chain, including:
3 a collaboration center;
4 one or more data centers comprising compensation logic, coupled to said
5 collaboration center;
6 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;
7 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to one of said
8 site servers;
9 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in a way such
10 that they are readable by tag reader coupled to or part of said data
11 appliances, ~~;~~ and
12 wherein said compensation logic compensates for missing information by using a
13 previous tag read and a current tag read, ~~a mistake by creating a tag read~~
14 ~~for a missing tag read~~, and said users are charged a fee per transaction to
15 access said data center and view reports compiled using location

16 information regarding each tracked good, each of said transactions
17 including a tag read.

1 43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42, wherein said tags and tag
2 readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

1 44. (Original) The system of claim 42, further including an Intransit Data
2 Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled to said data
3 center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the location of a
4 good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 45. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a
3 method for the real-time tracking of goods in a supply chain, the method including:
4 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to store
5 or carry the goods;
6 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing
7 information on said location at a site server coupled to said data appliance;
8 uploading said location information to a data center, said data center coupled to
9 said site server;
10 compensating for missing information by using a previous tag read and a current
11 tag read ~~a mistake in said marking by a creating tag read at said data~~
12 ~~center for a missing tag read~~; and
13 charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked
14 goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using location
15 information regarding each tracked good.

1 46. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a
3 method for the real-time tracking of goods in a supply chain, the method including:
4 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to store
5 or carry the goods;
6 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing

7 information on said location at a site server coupled to said data appliance;
8 uploading said information to a data center, said data center coupled to said site
9 server;
10 compensating for missing information by using a previous tag read and a current
11 tag read ~~a mistake in said marking by a creating tag read at said data-~~
12 ~~center for a missing tag read;~~ and
13 charging users of said supply chain a fee per transaction to access said data center
14 and view information regarding each tracked good, each transaction
15 including a single tag read.

1 47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein said site server is
2 configured to aggregate one or more of said goods into a conveyance at a data point and
3 indicate an aggregation event.

1 48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein said site server is
2 further configured to perform aggregation-by-inference, wherein an aggregation event
3 automatically indicates that said conveyance has been completely filled with items.

1 49. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said compensating comprises
2 compensating for missing information about a good by using aggregation information
3 derived from a previous tag read with and a current tag read to create a missing tag read
4 for the good.

1 50. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said compensating comprises
2 compensating for missing information about a second location by using location
3 information from a previous tag read at a first location with location information from a
4 current tag read at a third location to create a missing tag read for the good at the second
5 location.

1 51. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving the missing information subsequent to the compensating; and
3 repacing the compensated information with the missing information.